

(a) SEQ ID NO: 1, or a fragment thereof that encodes a polypeptide that comprises WD-40 repeats and that regulates plants differentiation or endoreplication,

(b) a sequence that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent conditions and that encodes a polypeptide that comprises WD-40 repeats and that regulates plant differentiation or endoreplication,

(c) an antisense sequence that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO: 1 under stringent conditions and that inhibits the expression of a polypeptide that comprises WD-40 repeats and that regulates plant differentiation or endoreplication;

wherein stringent conditions comprise washing in 2X SSC at 65°C.

13. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12 that comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or a fragment thereof.

14. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12 that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions.

15. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12, that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:1 under stringent conditions.

16. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12 that encodes a protein that is at least 70% similar to the CCS52Ms protein.

17. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12 that encodes the CCS52Ms protein.

18. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12 that encodes a protein that is at least 70% similar to the CCS52Mt protein.

19. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12 that encodes the CCS52Ms protein.

20. (New) The nucleic acid of Claim 12 that is isolated from a plant.

21. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 12.

22. (New) The vector of Claim 21, wherein said nucleic acid is placed under the control of a promoter.

23. (New) The vector of Claim 22, wherein said promoter is an inducible promoter, a constitutive promoter, a tissue-specific promoter or an ubiquitous promoter.

24. (New) The vector of Claim 22, wherein said promoter is an inducible promoter.

25. (New) The vector of Claim 22, wherein said promoter is a tissue specific promoter.

26. (New) A host cell comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 12.

27. (New) A plant cell that comprises the nucleic acid of Claim 12.

28. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 12.

29. (New) An isolated or purified nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide consisting of:

(a) SEQ ID NO: 2, or a polypeptide fragment thereof that regulates plant differentiation and endoreplication,

(b) a polypeptide that is at least 70% similar to SEQ ID NO:2 that regulates plant differentiation and endoreplication, and that comprises repeated WD-40 motifs and a consensus sequence (X<sub>1</sub>YN X<sub>2</sub>LL X<sub>3</sub>NN X<sub>4</sub>FG) and where X<sub>1</sub> = A or S, X<sub>2</sub> = T or R, X<sub>3</sub> = R or K and X<sub>4</sub> = L or M.--

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#### REMARKS

Claims 12-29 are active. Claims 1, 2 and 8-11 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 12-29 track and find support in original Claims and throughout the specification. Specific support for independent Claim 12 and dependent Claims 13-15 is found in original Claim 3 and in the following portions of the disclosure: endoreplication and plant differentiation are described on pages 1-2 of the specification, support for SEQ ID NO: 1 is found in the